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2503-1193

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

January 9, 2006

Conf.

Application No. NEW NATIONAL PHASE

Group

Filed January 9, 2006

Examiner

PROCESS FOR OBTAINING TOBACCO LEAVES WITH A STANDARDIZED NICOTINE
CONTENT AND/OR IMPROVED COMBUSTIBILITYINFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(SUBMISSION CONCURRENT WITH THE
FILING OF A NEW PATENT APPLICATION)Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 9, 2006

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II. COPIES

- ☒ Copies of the U.S. patents or publications are not submitted since the USPTO has waived their submission for applications filed after June 30, 2003.
- ☒ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- ☐ This application is a National Phase of a PCT application. Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should have been forwarded from the International Search Authority pursuant to the trilateral agreement between the USPTO, EPO and JPO, or they are U.S. patents or U.S. published applications. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE **APPROPRIATE 09 JAN 2006**
 (check at least one box)

a. ☒ **DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

The attached non U.S. patents, non U.S. patent application publications, foreign publications, or other information in the English language do not require a statement of relevancy.

b. ☐ **DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

c. ☒ **FOREIGN SEARCH REPORT OR ACTION**

An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(A)(3).

d. ☐ **OTHER**

The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

FEES

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing of a new patent application; therefore, no fee is required.

If The Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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BC/lpp

Enclosures: ☒ Form PTO-1449(s)
☒ Documents
☒ Foreign Search Report
☐ Other: _____

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Attorney Docket No.: 2503-1193	Application No.: 2503-1193 NEW NATIONAL PHASE
	Applicant: Valentino MERCATI	
	Filing Date: January 9, 2006	Group Art Unit:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing date (if appropriate)
	5,040,550	8/20/1991	ARGYROPOULOS JOHN			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	GB 315 715	1/16/1931	UNITED KINGDOM				
	GB 290 204	6/6/1929	UNITED KINGDOM				
	GB 959 190	5/27/1964	UNITED KINGDOM				
	EP 0 419 187	3/27/1991	EUROPE				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER:	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

* English language abstract provided for the Examiner's convenience

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Y&T January 9, 2006